

Message Text

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DRAFTED BY NEA/IRN:CWNAAS:MP(TEXT RECD FROM WHITE HOUSE

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S/S-S:RPERSIKA (7614335

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

UNCLAS STATE 172448

E.O. 11652:N/A

AGS: PDIP, US, IR

SUBJECT: RESPONSE TO FOURTH OF JULY MESSAGE TO THE
PRESIDENT

1. FOLLOWING MESSAGE RECEIVED BY PRESIDENT FORD FROM
PRIME MINISTER HOVEYDA:

"I HAVE THE HONOUR AND PRIVILEGE TO PRESENT TO YOU
MR. PRESIDENT MY MOST SINCERE CONGRATULATIONS ON THE VERY
HAPPY OCCASION OF THE TWO HUNDREDTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE
PROCLAMATION OF INDEPENDENCE OF THE GREAT AMERICAN NATION
STOP I SEIZE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO EXPRESS MY VERY BEST
WISHES FOR THE CONTINUED WELL-BEING OF THE PEOPLE OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA STOP HAMIR ABBAS HOVEYDA
PRIME MINISTER OF IRAN."

2. FOLLOWING RESPONSE FROM PRESIDENT FORD SHOULD BE
DELIVERED TO THE PRIME MINISTER:

"ON BEHALF OF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE, MRS. FORD AND I JOIN
IN EXPRESSING OUR APPRECIATION FOR YOUR THOUGHTFUL
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MESSAGE ON THE OCCASION OF THE 200TH ANNIVERSARY OF OUR

NATION'S INDEPENDENCE.

"IN OUR BICENTENNIAL CELEBRATIONS, THE AMERICAN PEOPLE
NOT ONLY MARK THE DEEDS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF THE PAST,
BUT ALSO REAFFIRM OUR COMMITMENT TO INDIVIDUAL FREEDOM,
DIGNITY AND EQUALITY.

"WE LOOK FORWARD TO WORKING WITH YOU TOWARD THE IMPORTANT
GOALS OUR NATIONS SHARE. SINCERELY, GERALD FORD."

3. NO RELEASE PLANNED, BUT NO OBJECTION IF IRANIANS
WISH TO DO SO. KISSINGER

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